

NOTICE OF MEMBERSHIP BUSINESS AND ELECTIONS MEETING; NOTICE OF AMENDMENTS TO THE AAJ BYLAWS

ATTENTION voting members of the American Association for Justice

Notice is hereby provided that the Annual Membership Business and Elections Meeting (“Business Meeting”) will be held at the AAJ 2023 Annual Convention in Philadelphia, PA. The Business Meeting will take place on Sunday, July 16, 2023, and will begin at 5:15 pm Eastern Time.

Pursuant to the AAJ Rules for Election, national officers for the following positions will be declared elected at the Business Meeting: parliamentarian, treasurer, secretary, vice president, and president-elect.

Pursuant to Article XV; Section 2 of the Association Bylaws, notice is hereby provided that amendments are proposed to the AAJ Bylaws. A vote on the proposed amendments will take place at the Business Meeting. These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of eligible members who are present and voting.

The text of the proposed amendments is shown below in strikethroughs and in red:

AMENDING ARTICLE XII—SECTIONS AND LITIGATION GROUPS

With respect to Section 1, the AAJ Board of Governors voted to decertify Criminal Law and Family Law as AAJ Sections. Criminal Law and Family Law will be complimentary AAJ Forum list servers available to all Regular Members and sponsored Paralegal Affiliates. AAJ will continue to offer other resources in these areas of practice.

Section 1. The sections of The Association are: the Admiralty Law Section, the Aviation Law Section, the Business Torts Section, the Class Action Section, the Civil Rights Section, ~~the Criminal Law Section~~, the Environmental and Toxic Torts Section, the Employment Rights Section, ~~the Family Law Section~~, the Federal Tort Liability and Military Advocacy Section, the Insurance Law Section, the International Practice Section, the Motor Vehicle Collision, Highway and Premises Liability Section, the New Lawyers Division, **the Premises Liability Section**, the Pharmaceutical and Medical Device Section, the Product Liability Section, the Professional Negligence Section, the Railroad Law Section, the Sole Practitioner & Small Firm Section, the Social Security Disability Law Section, the Technology and Science Section, and the Workers’ Compensation and Workplace Injury Section. The establishment of new sections, the abolition of sections and amalgamation of sections shall be by action of the Board of Governors with the approval of the membership at the Annual Convention.

Section 9. A Section Leaders Council is hereby established and composed of the Immediate Past Chair of the Council and ~~three~~ **four** individuals from each Section: ~~two of whom shall be the Immediate Past Chair, and the Chair, Chair-Elect, and Vice Chair, unless and one of whom shall be a~~ **the Section Officers** designated ~~another~~ Section member. **If a Section has more than one Vice Chair, the Section Officers shall designate which member shall serve on the Section Leaders Council.** The AAJ Board of Governors shall determine the responsibilities and functions of the Section Leaders Council. The Section Leaders Council may ~~meet quarterly~~ **as necessary but must** hold a meeting at the AAJ Annual Convention for the purposes of electing a Chair, **First Vice Chair of Membership Engagement, Second Vice Chair of Membership and Diversity** and Vice Chair, and shall also elect two (2) individuals from among the members of the Section Leaders Council to serve staggered two-year terms as voting members of AAJ’s Board of Governors. **The election of the Chair and Vice Chairs of the Section Leaders Council shall be for a term of one year. No member may hold the same office of Chair, First Vice Chair of Membership Engagement, or Second Vice Chair of Membership and Diversity in the Section Leaders Council for more than one consecutive one-year term.** Each individual elected to serve as a member of the Board shall serve a two-year term. The term of office shall commence at the Annual Convention meeting of the new Board. No member of the Section Leaders Council shall serve on AAJ’s Board of Governors under this section for more than two (2) consecutive terms. All members of the Council **who participate at the Annual Convention meeting** may vote and be eligible to be elected to Council offices. In the event that a member of the Council shall be unable to attend a meeting of the Council, that member may designate a proxy from the member’s Section to attend the meeting in the member’s absence, provided that the member has designated such a proxy in writing to the Chair of the Council no later than the commencement of the meeting of the Council.